William Vajda Bio

Bill has enjoyed a widely varied and unique career. Prior to current service as the first State of Alaska CIO, he served with the U.S. Government, NATO, state and local government, and private industry. While City Manager for Marquette, MI, the community was recognized by U.S. President Obama as the model for how local government should be managed in the 21st Century. As a Senior Advisor in the White House, he served as Chief of Coordination for the Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative (CNCI) during the Bush-Obama Presidential transition. He served as the Chief Information Officer for the U.S. Department of Education, and was appointed to the U.S. Federal CIO Council Executive Committee. While serving as co-Chair of the Council's Best Practices Committee, Bill was responsible for several government-wide initiatives, including the Grants.gov Portal, and the Financial Line of Business Portal. As a Federal expert, he contributed to the development of many ICT standards and regulations still in use today. Bill served as the Associated Director for IT and Acting Chief Information Officer with the U.S. National Security Agency, America's premiere cyber-security and advanced information technology organization, where he was responsible for the NSA global technology base. He served with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, holding positions as the Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Systems Development/Deputy CIO, as well as the Acting Assistant Commissioner, International, including service as the acting U.S. Competent Authority. During his career, Bill has established information technology consulting practices supporting projects in the Middle East, South America, Germany, and Mexico for a variety of governmental and private-sector clients. He has provided hands-on leadership for IT activities in over 63 countries, and spent 11 years in Europe in a variety of industry roles, culminating with a diplomatic posting to NATO. Bill has been recognized with several significant Government and Industry awards, including a U.S. Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, a U.S. Vice-Presidential Hammer Award, an NSA Directors Distinguished Service Medal, a Joint Intelligence Meritorious Unit Award, and a State of Michigan Excellence in Technology award. He has previously served as a Fellow with the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government Leadership for a Networked World program, and is a member of numerous industry groups, serves on several public and private Boards.